Comparatives: Adjectives and adverbs



exercise your memory will get stronger and stronger until you find that you can think more clearly, TRAINING COURSES study harder and work more efficiently then over hefere. study harder and work more efficiently than ever before.

Presentation

Use the comparative form ...

- to make comparisons: This course is better than the last one.
- to describe the results of a change: Your memory will be more efficient (than it was before).
- to describe how something is in the process of changing: Your memory is getting less reliable.

Adjectives

To form comparative adjectives, use -er or more / less.

Short adjectives (one syllable or two syllables ending in -y)	Long adjectives (two syllables or more)	
adjective $+$ -er old \rightarrow older, easy \rightarrow easier, big \rightarrow bigger	more / less + adjective efficient → more efficient / less efficient	

Some adjectives have two possible comparative forms: more quiet / quieter, more gentle / gentler Some adjectives are irregular: $good \rightarrow better$, $bad \rightarrow worse$, $far \rightarrow further$ The spelling sometimes changes when we add -er: $big \rightarrow bigger$, $silly \rightarrow sillier$ See page 233: Spelling rules

Adverbs

Form comparative adverbs in the same way as comparative adjectives, using -er or more / less.

Short adverbs (one syllable)	Long adverbs (two syllables or more)	
adverb + -er	more / less + adverb	
$hard \rightarrow harder$, fast \rightarrow faster	efficiently → more efficiently / less efficiently	

Some adverbs are irregular : $well \rightarrow better$, $badly \rightarrow worse$

than

Use the preposition *than* to link the two objects, people or situations that you are comparing: My memory is less reliable than it used to be.

1 Complete the text with the correct comparative form of the adjectives and adverbs. Use -er, more or less.

	Do you find that you're getting 1(busy) every day? You're working 2(hard) than ever, but you're getting 3 (efficient)? You've never got time to get to the gym and you're getting 4(fat) and 5 (slow)? Then try our new, improved	Desk Top Aerobics. The new version is guaranteed to make you ⁶ (fit) and ⁷ (healthy). It'll help you feel ⁸ (stressed). It'll help you work ⁹ (quickly) and ¹⁰ (efficiently). You'll love it. Your boss'll love it. Start now!
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good grey	long stressed	
	than ever and to getting any ² I'm ³ I've ever been b	hours
	the day! I don't	think I can take it

anymore!





I love my new life. I can relax now so I'm 5 than before. I'm working 6 hours. I'm eating 7 . I'm 8 and enjoying life more than I ever have before.

3 Write sentences that give your opinion. Use a comparative form using -er, more or less.

1	pizza / ice-cream (tasty)	I think ice-cream is tastier than pizza.
	work / studying (stressful)	I think
3	listening to music / doing sport (relaxing)	I think
4	travelling by car / travelling by train (fast)	I think
5	dancers / golfers (fit)	I think
6	teachers / lawyers (work hard)	I think

4 Complete these sentences so that they are true for you.

1	I am less	than I was five years ago.
2	I think	is more important than
3		is easier than
4		is better for you than
5	I'd like to be more	/ less than I am at the moment.